

ABSTRACT

Program guide information of the program to be broadcast by the broadcast station 1 is reserved in the EPG server 15 of the center station 11. The EPG server 15 retrieves for each user, the program satisfying the conditions such as the category of the program registered in the personal information database 16, and then transmits the guide information of the retrieved programs to the portable telephone 14 of a user who has set the conditions, via the communication network 10. Thereby, even if the user is outside the home, if there is a program satisfying the conditions specified by the user, the user can obtain the information concerning the program by utilizing the portable telephone 14. Then, the user can instruct, with reference to the obtained program information, a recording operation from the portable telephone 14 to the VTR 6 in the home 12.